

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Attorney Docket No: Q78738

**REMARKS**

Claims 3 and 11 have been amended, and a new claims 14 – 20 have been added to place the claims in desired appropriate form for examination. No issue of new matter is raised. Thus all of the claims are now in appropriate form, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with the examination.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may facilitate the further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
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Joseph J. Ruch, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,577

Date: December 12, 2003